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TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1978
PART IX

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

■

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

[3410-30]

Title 7—Agriculture

CHAPTER II—FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This delineates procedures for making the July 1, 1978 adjustments in the Food Stamp Program maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance. Adjustments will be made for the 48 States and D.C., Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam, appearing in Appendices A through F to Part 271.

Semi-annual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator, Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This rule lists (1) the Consumer Price Index (CPI) used to make the adjustments in the coupon allotments and the poverty lines, (2) the base month for which the coupon allotment adjustments will be computed, and (3) the appropriate income poverty guidelines.

Consumer Price Index. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently changed its method of computing the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Beginning in January 1978 and ending in June 1978, there will be three CPI's—(1) A new CPI for All Urban Consumers, covering about 80 percent of the noninstitutionalized, civilian U.S. population, (2) a revised CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, covering about 40 percent of the population, and (3) the unrevised CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, covering about 40 percent of the population. Beginning in July 1978, only the first two CPI's will be computed.

There are several technical differences between the three CPI's as shown in the BLS fact sheet which appears as Appendix G to this rule. As noted in that comparision, "[t]he CPI revision (1) updates the weights to be assigned to the expenditure groups; (2) updates the sample of items priced; (3) updates the sample of places where the pricing takes place; (4) modernizes the statistical methods employed in calculation of the CPI; and (5) provides for the first time an index which represents the experience of nearly all consumers in contrast to having only one index represent urban wage and clerical workers." [1]

USDA chose the revised CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for use in the July 1, 1978 adjustments for the 48 States and D.C.[2] The Thrifty Food Plan computations based on the revised CPI are not currently available concerning the outlying areas so the unrevised CPI will continue to be used for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. The revised CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers is basically a routine updating of the unrevised CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers.[3]

Base month for adjustment. Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act of 1964, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 1973 amendments to the Act provided for semi-annual adjustments beginning with the allotments of January 1974, which incorporated the changes in the prices of food through August 1973.

Subsequently, the Department made a decision to similarly adjust future coupon allotments. Thereafter, July adjustments were based upon the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in February, and January adjustments on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in August. Generally, February Thrifty Food Plan data are available during late March, and August Thrifty Food Plan data are available in late September.

In preparing for the July 1978 allotment adjustments, the necessity of adjusting the data base to the revised CPI caused a delay in the computation of February 1978 Thrifty Food Plan costs. Those costs were available approximately a month later than usual, at about the same time that March Thrifty Food Plan data were made available. The Department will use the more recent data from March rather than the older February data for this update.[4]

Poverty line. Under the 1970-71 food stamp amendments (P.L. 91-671), income eligibility limits are set at dollar levels where the cost of a nutritionally adequate diet, as defined by the Thrifty Food Plan, equals 30 percent (0.3) of a household's net available income or at the poverty level for that size household, if that poverty level is higher than the dollar level.

In accord with current policy the USDA Poverty Guideline rather than the OMB Poverty Guideline will be used as the net income eligibility cut off for some of the smaller household sizes because the numbers obtained by dividing their coupon allotments by 0.3 are less than the poverty guideline for those household sizes. However, the USDA Poverty Guideline will be modified to avoid publication of two sets of regulations, the first set using the 1977 USDA Poverty Guideline ($262 for the one-person household and $344 for the two-person household in the 48 States and D.C.), and the second set using the 1978 USDA Poverty Guideline which will be higher but not available until early June. To provide State agencies with adequate lead time USDA could not delay publication of the new basis of issuance tables until June. At the same time USDA did not want to make the State agencies reprogram their computers in June to make the adjustment in the eligibility standards and purchase requirements for the one- and two-person households which would have been necessitated by the revision of the USDA Poverty Guideline. To avoid needlessly burdening State agencies, FNS has developed a variant of the USDA Poverty Guideline called the 1978 USDA Adjusted Poverty Guideline, which is updated through

[1] BLS has routinely updated their CPI's over the years. The old index is based on the Consumer Expenditure Survey of 1960-61 and the new indices are based on the 1972-73 Consumer Expenditure Survey.

[2] For the 48 States and D.C. there was no difference in the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan for March 1978 between the unrevised CPI and the revised CPI.

[3] OMB, in a letter dated February 23, 1978, to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate proposing legislation to require all Federal agencies to use the All Urban Consumer CPI after July 1, when the unrevised CPI is no longer available, stated: "In the absence of legislation, the revised version of the current CPI for wage earners and clerical workers would apply."

[4] The decision to use the most up-to-date data is consistent with the intent of Congress. One purpose of the 1973 amendments was to base the food stamp allotments on more recent data than had been used in the past; and given the time frame for preparation of the changes, the interpretation that the July allotments should be based upon February data was reasonable. During this transitional phase from the Food Stamp Act of 1964 to implementation of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, which requires the use of March data for adjusting the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan for the July allotments, it is appropriate to use March data.

March 1978. The 1978 Adjusted Guideline is based on the April unrevised CPI for all items in 1977 and adjusted by the March revised CPI for all items in 1978. The 1978 USDA Adjusted Poverty Guideline for Hawaii and Guam is based on the March unrevised CPI for all items in 1977 and adjusted by the February revised CPI for all items in 1978. Data are not reported for March for Hawaii and Guam. The new maximum allowable monthly income standards for the 48 States and D.C. are $277 for the one-person household and $363 for the two-person household; for other areas see Appendices B through F.

The 1978 USDA Adjusted Poverty Guideline will likely be a few dollars lower for the one- and two-person households than the 1978 USDA Poverty Guideline which will be published in June or July for use in the Child Nutrition Programs. The 1978 Adjusted Poverty Guideline will only be employed until the Food Stamp Act of 1977 is implemented and represents a practical and efficient interim methodology. The Food Stamp Act of 1977 also requires that the Department adjust the income poverty guideline each year based on March data. Use of the Adjusted Guideline will not lower coupon allotment levels for participating food stamp households.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect on July 1, 1978, and the lead time needed by State agencies for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to the notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

APPENDIX G—FACTS ABOUT THE REVISED CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

[FR Doc. 78-13461 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

The Consumer Price Index Revision-1978

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
1978

Facts About the Revised Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a statistical measure of change, over time, in the prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups—such as food, housing, apparel, transportation, and health and recreation—typically purchased by urban consumers. Essentially it measures the purchasing power of consumers' dollars by comparing what a sample "market"basket" of goods and services costs today with what the same sample market basket cost at an earlier date.

The CPI revision (1) updates the weights assigned to the expenditure groups; (2) updates the sample of items priced; (3) updates the sample of places where the pricing takes place; (4) modernizes the statistical methods employed in calculation of the CPI; and (5) provides for the first time an index which represents the experience of nearly all consumers in contrast to having only one index representing urban wage and clerical workers. The results of the most recent revision are scheduled for publication in early 1978. The preceding comprehensive revision took place in 1963. The following fact sheet compares aspects of the revised and unrevised CPI.

Comparison of old and new Consumer Price Index series

Item	Old index	New indexes
Title	Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (old series).	1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (Revised series) (CPI-W).
Population covered	Urban wage and clerical worker families and single individuals living alone. At least one family member must have been employed for 37 weeks or more during the survey year in wage or clerical worker occupations. More than half of the total family income had to be earned from wage earner or clerical worker occupations.	CPI-U—All urban residents, including salaried workers, self-employed workers, retirees, and unemployed persons, as well as urban wage earners and clerical workers. No length of employment required and no criteria as to family income. CPI-W—Same as old index.
	Excludes farm families, military personnel and persons in institutions.	Same for CPI-U and CPI-W.
Formula (modified Lasperyes)	$I_t = I_{t-1}\left[\frac{\Sigma(p_{i-1}q_a)(p_i/p_{i-1})}{\Sigma(p_{i-1}q_a)}\right]$	Same.
Standard reference base	1967=100. Selected series are also published on the 1957-59=100 base.	1967=100, for both the CPI-U and CPI-W.
Duration	Introduced January 1964, replaced with revised CPI series after December 1977. Available for 6-month overlap period.	CPI-U and CPI-W introduced as official indexes with the publication of the January 1978 index. Available indefinitely until next revision.
Expenditure weights reference period	Average annual expenditures of urban wage earner and clerical worker families and single persons, derived from the *1960-61* Consumer Expenditure Survey in 66 areas, adjusted for price change between the survey dates and *December 1963*, except for six cities added in 1966.	CPI-U—Average annual expenditures for all urban residents derived from the *1972-73* Consumer Expenditure Survey in 216 areas, adjusted for price change between the survey date and *December 1977*. CPI-W—Average annual expenditures for urban wage earners and clerical worker families and single persons from 1972-73 Consumer Expenditure Survey in 216 areas, adjusted for price change between the survey date and December 1977. (See BLS Report 448-1, 2, 3,; 455-1, 3.)
City coverage		
Geographic coverage	*56* urban areas; 50 metropolitan areas and cities selected to represent all urban places in the United States, with 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1960, Alaska, and Hawaii; six additional areas were added in 1966.	*85* urban areas selected to represent all urban places in the United States, with 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1970, including Alaska and Hawaii. (See table on page 5).
Pricing cycle	Prices of food, fuels, and a few other items collected every month in all cities. Prices of most other commodities and services collected monthly in the five largest cities and every *3 months* in the remaining cities.	Prices of food, fuels, and a few other items collected monthly in all cities. Prices of most other commodities and services collected monthly in the five largest cities and *bimonthly* in the remaining cities.
	Pricing of foods done early in each month on 3 consecutive days.	Pricing of foods done throughout the month.
Published indexes	U.S. index and 5 largest metropolitan areas published monthly; 18 other large metropolitan areas published *quarterly*.	U.S. index and 5 largest metropolitan areas published monthly; 23 other large metropolitan areas published *bimonthly*. Regional and city-size class indexes published *bimonthly*.
	Regional and city-size class indexes also published *quarterly* since 1967.	Regional indexes cross-classified by population size will be published *bimonthly*.

Comparison of old and new Consumer Price Index series—Continued

Item	Old index	New indexes
Item sample		
Item coverage	All goods and services purchased for consumption, including both necessities and luxuries. Excludes personal life insurance, income and personal property taxes, but includes real estate taxes and sales and excise taxes.	Same.
Sample of items priced	Consumer Expenditure Survey (1960-61) data classified into 52 expenditure classes. About 400 items represented in U.S. index and in published city indexes. Certainty items priced in all published cities, other items in one or two sub-samples of other unpublished cities.	Consumer Expenditure Survey (1972-73) data classified into 68 expenditure classes. Expenditure classes contain approximately 265 classes or sets of items, called item strata, represented in the U.S. index and in published city indexes. Item strata further divided into a total of 382 lower level categories called entry-level items. Two samples of item strata priced in each published area except New York which has six samples; each unpublished area has one sample of item strata priced.
Basis of item selection	Probability proportionate to importance in family spending of group covered.	Same.
Reporter samples		
Outlet selection	Selected proportionate to type of ownership, type of outlet, geographic location within area, and in a few instances, sales volume.	A full probability sample of retail stores and other outlets was selected from the results of the Point-of-Purchase Survey. About 23,000 families across the country provided information on the specific retail stores in which they shopped. Data provided from the point-of-purchase survey were used to develop, for the first time, a consistent, objective, and probability-based sample of retail stores and service establishments for the CPI. A number of auxiliary sources used to construct an outlet sampling frame for categories not included in the Point-of-Purchase survey.
Location	In central cities and urbanized places of 56 metropolitan areas (50 areas in 1964 and 1965).	In 85 primary sampling units which include central cities, suburbs, and urbanized places within 25 miles of a selected county or selected group of contiguous counties. Prices also collected outside of the primary sampling units to represent out-of-town purchases.
Number of reporters	About 1,775 food stores. About 40,000 rental units. About 16,000 other reporters of all kinds. About 13,000 housing units for property taxes.	About 2,300 food store outlets. About 18,000 rental units. About 18,500 other reporters as determined from the Point of Purchase Survey. About 18,000 housing units for property taxes. About 3,000 reporters selected from a number of auxiliary sources.
Number of price quotations obtained	Over 1 million food prices per year. About 80,000 rent charges per year. About 362,000 quotations per year for items other than food and rent. About 13,000 property taxes per year.	About 650,000 food prices per year. Over 70,000 rent charges per year. About 350,000 quotations per year for items other than food, rent, and property taxes. About 28,000 property tax quotations per year.
Pricing technique	Personal visit or telephone call by BLS data collector, except for some items collected by mail or from some secondary source.	Same.

Comparison of old and new Consumer Price Index series—Continued

Item	Old index	New indexes
Reporter Samples—Continued		
	Specification pricing, but agent is permitted to price deviations from specification under prescribed conditions.	Store-specific pricing. The data collector enters a store with exhaustive definition of a fairly broad category of goods and services called an entry level item and then proceeds systematically through successive stages to select items for pricing on the basis of sales information provided by the respondent at each stage. A specific-in-detail item is thus selected for pricing over time in the retail outlet.
		Data collector continues to collect price quotations for specific item or similar substitute item until it is no longer available.
Uses	Formulation and evaluation of economic policy measures.	Same.
	Escalator of income payments.	Same.
	Deflator of earnings to provide measures of real earnings.	Same.
	Measure of purchasing power of consumer dollar.	Same.

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: 48 States and District of Columbia

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for the 48 States and the District of Columbia appearing in appendix A to part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semiannual adjustments in the coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX A—48 STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semiannually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in March 1978 has been made in the coupon allotments for all households.

Prior to the amendment to the act requiring semiannual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semiannual adjustment, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semiannual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding August. It is now possible to base this semiannual adjustment on more current data—the cost of the food plan for March. Therefore, the income standards and coupon allotments to become effective on July 1, 1978, are based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in March 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally aided public assistance grant, general assistance grant, or supplemental security income benefit shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally aided public assistance, general assistance, or supplemental security income benefit, in any State (other than Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, or the Virgin Islands) or in the District of Columbia shall be as follows:

Household size:	Maximum allowable monthly income standards
1	[1] $277
2	[1] 363
3	480
4	607
5	720
6	867
7	953
8	1,093
Each additional member	+140

[1] 48 States and District of Columbia.
[2] 1978 USDA adjusted poverty guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the Food Stamp Program Regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which State agencies are authorized to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the Program and the amount charged for the monthly coupon allotment in the 48 States and the District of Columbia shall be:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—48 STATES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
Monthly net income	$54	$100	$144	$182	$216	$260	$286	$328
	and the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$190 to $209.99	42	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	44	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	44	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	44	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99	44	74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99		80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99		80	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99		80	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		80	103	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99			112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99			121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99			126	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			126	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99				149	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99				158	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99				158	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99				158	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99					186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99					188	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99					188	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99					188	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99						223	224	225
$780 to $809.99						228	233	234
$810 to $839.99						228	242	243
$840 to $869.99						228	250	252
$870 to $899.99							250	261
$900 to $929.99							250	270
$930 to $959.99							250	279
$960 to $989.99								288
$990 to $1,019.99								288
$1,020 to $1,049.99								288
$1,050 to $1,079.99								288
$1,080 to $1,109.99								288

FOR ISSUANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF MORE THAN EIGHT PERSONS USE THE FOLLOWING FORMULA

A. *Value of the Total Allotment.* For each person in excess of eight, add $42 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. *Purchase Requirement.* 1. Use the pruchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $989.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $990 or more, use the following formula:

For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $989.99 add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement for an eight-person household with an income of $989.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $38 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document contains a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107 and certifies that an Economic Impact Statement has been prepared.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect July 1, 1978, and the lead-time needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13462 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: Alaska

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for Alaska appearing in Appendix B to Part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semi-annual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX B—ALASKA

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semi-annually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in March 1978 has been made in the coupon allotment for all households.

Prior to the amendment to the Act requiring semi-annual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semi-annual adjustments, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in the food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semi-annual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding August. It is now possible to base this semi-annual adjustment on more current data—the cost of the food plan for March. Therefore, the income standards and coupon allotments set forth below are based on the allotment table adopted for the continental United States, adjusted for the cost of food in Alaska in March 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally aided public assistance grant, general assistance grant, or supplemental security income benefit shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally aided public assistance, general assistance, or supplemental security income benefit, in Alaska, shall be as follows:

Household size	Maximum allowable monthly income standards—Alaska
1	[1]$343
2	460
3	660
4	840
5	1,000
6	1,200
7	1,320
8	1,513
Each additional member	+193

[1]1978 USDA adjusted poverty guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the Food Stamp Program Regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7(a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which the State agency is authorized to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the Program and the amount charged for the monthly coupon allotment in Alaska shall be as follows:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—ALASKA

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$76	$138	$198	$252	$300	$360	$396	$454
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$190 to $209.99	45	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	51	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	57	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	62	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99	62	74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99	62	80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99	62	86	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99	62	92	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		101	103	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99		110	112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99		112	121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99		112	130	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			139	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99			148	149	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99			157	158	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99			166	167	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99			175	176	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99			176	185	186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99			176	194	195	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99				203	204	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99				212	213	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99				221	222	223	224	225
$780 to $809.99				224	231	232	233	234
$810 to $839.99				224	240	241	242	243
$840 to $869.99				224	249	250	251	252
$870 to $899.99					258	259	260	261
$900 to $929.99					267	268	269	270
$930 to $959.99					268	277	278	279
$960 to $989.99					268	286	287	288
$990 to $1,019.99					268	295	296	297
$1,020 to $1,049.99						304	305	306
$1,050 to $1,079.99						313	314	315
$1,080 to $1,109.99						322	323	324
$1,110 to $1,139.99						324	332	333
$1,140 to $1,169.99						324	341	342
$1,170 to $1,199.99						324	350	351
$1,200 to $1,229.99						324	356	360
$1,230 to $1,259.99							356	369
$1,260 to $1,289.99							356	378
$1,290 to $1,319.99							356	387
$1,320 to $1,349.99							356	396
$1,350 to $1,379.99								405
$1,380 to $1,409.99								410
$1,410 to $1,439.99								410
$1,440 to $1,469.99								410
$1,470 to $1,499.99								410
$1,500 to $1,529.99								410

FOR ISSUANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF MORE THAN EIGHT PERSONS USE THE FOLLOWING FORMULA

A. VALUE OF THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT

For each person in excess of eight, add $58 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. PURCHASE REQUIREMENT

1. Use the purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $1,379.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $1,380 or more, use the following formula: For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $1,379.99, add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household with an income of $1,379.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $54 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect on July 1, 1978, and the lead-time needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13463 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: Hawaii

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for Hawaii appearing in Appendix C to Part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semi-annual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX C—HAWAII

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semi-annually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in March 1978 has been made in the coupon allotment for all households.

Prior to the amendment to the Act requiring semi-annual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semi-annual adjustments, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in the food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semi-annual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding August. It is now possible to base this semi-annual adjustment on more current data—the cost of the food plan for March. Therefore, the income standards and coupon allotments set forth below are based on the allotment table adopted for the continental United States, adjusted for the cost of food in Hawaii in March 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally-aided public assistance grant, general assistance grant, or supplemental security income benefit shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally-aided public assistance, general assistance, or supplemental security income benefit, in Hawaii, shall be as follows:

Household size	Maximum allowable monthly income standards—Hawaii
1	[1]$301
2	440
3	633
4	800
5	953
6	1,140
7	1,260
8	1,440
Each additional member	+180

[1] 1978 USDA Adjusted Poverty Guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the Food Stamp Program Regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which the State agency is authorized to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the Program and the amount charged for the monthly coupon allotment in Hawaii shall be as follows:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—HAWAII

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$72	$132	$190	$240	$286	$342	$378	$432
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$190 to $209.99	45	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	51	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	57	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	63	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99	68	74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99	68	80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99		86	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99		92	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		101	103	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99		104	112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99		104	121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99			130	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			130	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99			148	149	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99			157	158	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99			166	167	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99			168	176	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99			168	185	186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99				194	195	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99				203	204	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99				212	213	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99				213	222	223	224	225
$780 to $809.99				212	231	232	233	234
$810 to $839.99					240	241	242	243
$840 to $869.99					249	250	251	252
$870 to $899.99					254	259	60	261
$900 to $929.99					254	268	269	270
$930 to $959.99					254	277	278	279
$960 to $989.99						286	287	288
$990 to $1,019.99						295	296	297
$1,020 to $1,049.99						304	305	306
$1,050 to $1,079.99						306	314	315
$1,080 to $1,109.99						306	323	324

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—HAWAII—Continued

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$72	$132	$190	$260	$326	$342	$378	$452
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$1,110 to $1,139.99						306	332	[illegible]
$1,140 to $1,169.99						306	338	343
$1,170 to $1,199.99							338	351
$1,200 to $1,229.99							338	360
$1,230 to $1,259.99							338	369
$1,260 to $1,289.99							338	378
$1,290 to $1,319.99								387
$1,320 to $1,349.99								388
$1,350 to $1,379.99								388
$1,380 to $1,409.99								388
$1,410 to $1,439.99								388
$1,440 to $1,469.99								338

FOR ISSUANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF MORE THAN EIGHT PERSONS USE THE FOLLOWING FORMULA

A. VALUE OF THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT

For each person in excess of eight, add $54 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. PURCHASE REQUIREMENT

1. Use the purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $1,319.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $1,320 or more, use the following formula:

For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $1,319.99 add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household with an income of $1,319.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $50 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect on July 1, 1978, and the lead-time needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMEN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13464 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: Puerto Rico

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for Puerto Rico appearing in Appendix D to Part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semiannual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adquate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX D—PUERTO RICO

Section 5(b) of the Food Stamp Act requires the establishment of special standards of eligibility and coupon allotment schedules, not to exceed those in the 50 States, which reflect the average per capita income and cost of obtaining a nutritionally adequate diet in Puerto Rico.

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semiannually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the thrifty food plan in March 1978 has been made in the coupon allotment for all except the one-person households. The cost of food did not increase enough for a change in the coupon allotment for the one-person household. Section 7(a) specifies that no such adjustment shall be made unless the increase in the coupon allotment is a minimum of $2.

Prior to the amendment to the Act requiring semiannual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semiannual adjustment, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in the food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semiannual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding August. It is now possible to base this semiannual adjustment on more current data—the cost of the food plan for March. Therefore, the income standards and coupon allotments set forth below are based on the allotment table adopted for the continental United States, adjusted for the cost of food in Puerto Rico in March 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally aided public assistance or general assistance grant shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally aided public assistance or general assistance, in Puerto Rico, shall be as follows:

Household size:	*Maximum allowable monthly income standards—Puerto Rico*
1	[1]$277
2	[1]363
3	480
4	607
5	720
6	867
7	953
8	1,093
Each additional member	+140

[1]1978 USDA adjusted poverty guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the food stamp program regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which the State agency is authorizes to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the program and the amounts charged for the monthly coupon allotment in Puerto Rico shall be as follows:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—PUERTO RICO

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$54	$100	$144	$182	$216	$260	$288	$328
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	12	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	13	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$196 to $209.99	44	50	53	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	48	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	44	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	48	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99		74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99		80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99		80	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99		80	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		80	102	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99			112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99			121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99			126	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			126	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99				140	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99				156	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99				156	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99				156	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99					186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99					186	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99					186	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99					186	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99						223	224	225
$780 to $809.99						228	233	234
$810 to $839.99						228	242	243
$840 to $869.99						228	250	252
$870 to $899.99							250	261
$900 to $929.99							250	270
$930 to $959.99							250	279
$960 to $989.99								288
$990 to $1,019.99								288
$1,020 to $1,049.99								288
$1,050 to $1,079.99								288
$1,080 to $1,109.99								288

FOR ISSUANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF MORE THAN EIGHT PERSONS USE THE FOLLOWING FORMULA

A. VALUE OF THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT

For each person in excess of eight, add $42 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. PURCHASE REQUIREMENT

1. Use the purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $989.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $990 or more, use the following formula: For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $989.99, add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement for an eight-person household with an income of $989.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $38 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by 4. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has combined the economic impact statement for Puerto Rico with the economic impact statement for the 48 States and the District of Columbia, and certifies that an economic impact statement has been prepared. An economic impact statement is authorized under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect on July 1, 1978, and the leadtime needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13465 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: Virgin Islands

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for the Virgin Islands appearing in Appendix E to Part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semi-annual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX E—VIRGIN ISLANDS

Section 5(b) of the Food Stamp Act requires the establishment of special standards of eligibility and coupon allotment schedules, not to exceed those in the fifty States, which reflect the average per capita income and cost of obtaining a nutritionally adequate diet in the Virgin Islands.

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semi-annually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in March 1978 has been made in the coupon allotment for all households.

Prior to the amendment to the Act requiring semi-annual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semi-annual adjustment, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semi-annual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January allotment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding August. It is now possible to base this semi-annual adjustment on more current data—the cost of the food plan for March. Therefore, the income standards and coupon allotments set forth below are based on the allotment table adopted for the continental United States adjusted for the cost of food in the Virgin Islands in March 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally-aided public assistance grant or general assistance grant shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally-aided public assistance or general assistance, in the Virgin Islands, shall be as follows:

Household size	Maximum allowable monthly income standards—Virgin Islands
1	[1]$277
2	427
3	613
4	780
5	927
6	1,113
7	1,227
8	1,407
Each additional member	+180

[1]1978 USDA Adjusted Poverty Guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the Food Stamp Program Regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which the State agency is authorized to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the Program and the amount charged for the monthly coupon allotment in the Virgin Islands shall be as follows:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—VIRGIN ISLANDS

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$70	$128	$184	$2341	$278	$334	$368	$422
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.49	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$190 to $209.99	45	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	51	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	56	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	56	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99	56	74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99		80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99		86	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99		92	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		101	103	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99		102	112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99		102	121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99			130	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			139	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99			148	149	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99			157	158	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99			162	167	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99			162	176	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99				185	186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99				194	195	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99				202	204	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99				206	213	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99				206	222	223	224	225
$780 to $809.99				206	231	232	233	234
$810 to $839.99					240	241	242	243
$840 to $869.99					246	250	251	252
$870 to $899.99					246	259	260	261
$900 to $929.99					246	268	269	270
$930 to $959.99						277	278	279
$960 to $989.99						286	287	288

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—VIRGIN ISLANDS—Continued

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$70	$128	$184	$241	$278	$334	$368	$422
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$990 to $1,019.99						295	296	297
$1,020 to $1,049.99						298	305	306
$1,050 to $1,079.99						298	314	315
$1,080 to $1,109.99						298	323	324
$1,110 to $1,139.99						298	328	333
$1,140 to $1,169.99							328	342
$1,170 to $1,199.99							328	351
$1,200 to $1,229.99							328	360
$1,230 to $1,259.99								369
$1,260 to $1,289.99								378
$1,290 to $1,319.99								378
$1,320 to $1,349.99								378
$1,350 to $1,379.99								378
$1,380 to $1,409.99								378

For issuance to households of more than eight persons use the following formula:

A. VALUE OF THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT

For each person in excess of eight, add $54 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. PURCHASE REQUIREMENT

1. Use the purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $1,289.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $1,290 or more, use the following formula:

For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $1,289.99, add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household with an income of $1,289.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $50 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect July 1, 1978, and the lead-time needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13466 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

[3410-30]

PART 271—PARTICIPATION OF STATE AGENCIES AND ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program; Maximum Monthly Allowable Income Standards and Basis of Coupon Issuance: Guam

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment revises the maximum allowable income standards and basis of coupon issuance for Guam appearing in Appendix F to Part 271 which were effective January 1, 1978. Semi-annual adjustments in coupon allotments, to reflect food price changes published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are required by the Food Stamp Act. These adjustments will continue to provide households with coupon allotments sufficient to purchase nutritionally adequate diets.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Snyder, Acting Deputy Administrator for Family Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202-447-8982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

APPENDIX F—GUAM

Section 5(b) of the Food Stamp Act requires the establishment of special standards of eligibility and coupon allotment schedules, not to exceed those in the fifty States, which reflect the average per capita income and cost of obtaining a nutritionally adequate diet in Guam.

Section 7(a) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended, requires that the value of the coupon allotment be adjusted semi-annually by the nearest increment that is a multiple of two to reflect changes in the prices of food published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Under this provision, an adjustment based on the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in February 1978 has been made in the coupon allotment for all households. (Food price data for March is not available for Guam.)

Prior to the amendment to the Act requiring semi-annual adjustment of the value of the coupon allotment, the adjustments were made at the beginning of each fiscal year; i.e., in July based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding December. With the enactment of the semi-annual adjustment, the law specified that the first adjustment be made in January 1974 to reflect changes in food prices through August 1973. Similar procedures have been used for subsequent semi-annual adjustments; i.e., the July adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the preceding February and the January adjustment based on the cost of the food plan in the prededing August. Based on prices provided for Guam, the Science and Education Administration estimated that the allotment table adopted for the continental United States, adjusted for the cost of food in Guam would be higher than in the fifty States. Thus, the income standards (except for the one-person household which is the same as Hawaii) and the coupon allotments set forth for Guam are the same as those which will become effective in Alaska on July 1, 1978.

Households in which all members are included in the federally-aided public assistance grant or general assistance grant shall be determined to be eligible to participate in the program while receiving such grants without regard to the income and resources of the household members.

The maximum allowable income standards for determining eligibility of all other applicant households, including those in which some members are recipients of federally-aided public assistance, general assistance, or supplemental security income benefit, in Guam shall be as follows:

Household size	Maximum allowable monthly income standards—Guam
1	[1]$301
2	460
3	660
4	840
5	1,000
6	1,200
7	1,320
8	1,513
Each additional member	+193

[1] 1978 USDA adjusted poverty guideline.

"Income" as the term is used in the notice is as defined in paragraph (c) of § 271.3 of the Food Stamp Program Regulations.

Pursuant to sections 7 (a) and (b) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2016, Pub. L. 91-671), the face value of the monthly coupon allotment which the State agency is authorized to issue to any household certified as eligible to participate in the Program and the amount charged for the monthly coupon allotment in Guam shall be as follows:

MONTHLY COUPON ALLOTMENTS AND PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS—GUAM

Monthly net income	For a household of—							
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons
	The monthly coupon allotment is—							
	$76	$138	$198	$252	$300	$360	$396	$454
	And the monthly purchase requirement is—							
$0 to $19.90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$20 to $29.99	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
$30 to $39.99	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
$40 to $49.99	6	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
$50 to $59.99	8	10	10	10	11	11	12	12
$60 to $69.99	10	12	13	13	14	14	15	16
$70 to $79.99	12	15	16	16	17	17	18	19
$80 to $89.99	14	18	19	19	20	21	21	22
$90 to $99.99	16	21	21	22	23	24	25	26
$100 to $109.99	18	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
$110 to $119.99	21	26	27	28	29	31	32	33
$120 to $129.99	24	29	30	31	33	34	35	36
$130 to $139.99	27	32	33	34	36	37	38	39
$140 to $149.99	30	35	36	37	39	40	41	42
$150 to $169.99	33	38	40	41	42	43	44	45
$170 to $189.99	39	44	46	47	48	49	50	51
$190 to $209.99	45	50	52	53	54	55	56	57
$210 to $229.99	51	56	58	59	60	61	62	63
$230 to $249.99	57	62	64	65	66	67	68	69
$250 to $269.99	62	68	70	71	72	73	74	75
$270 to $289.99	62	74	76	77	78	79	80	81
$290 to $309.99	62	80	82	83	84	85	86	87
$310 to $329.99		86	88	89	90	91	92	93
$330 to $359.99		92	94	95	96	97	98	99
$360 to $389.99		101	103	104	105	106	107	108
$390 to $419.99		110	112	113	114	115	116	117
$420 to $449.99		112	121	122	123	124	125	126
$450 to $479.99		112	130	131	132	133	134	135
$480 to $509.99			139	140	141	142	143	144
$510 to $539.99			148	149	150	151	152	153
$540 to $569.99			157	158	159	160	161	162
$570 to $599.99			166	167	168	169	170	171
$600 to $629.99			175	176	177	178	179	180
$630 to $659.99			176	185	186	187	188	189
$660 to $689.99			176	194	195	196	197	198
$690 to $719.99				203	204	205	206	207
$720 to $749.99				212	213	214	215	216
$750 to $779.99				221	222	223	224	225
$780 to $809.99				224	231	232	233	234
$810 to $839.99				224	240	241	242	243
$840 to $869.99				224	249	250	251	252
$870 to $899.99					258	259	260	261
$900 to $929.99					267	268	269	270
$930 to $959.99					268	277	278	279
$960 to $989.99					268	286	287	288
$990 to $1,019.99					268	295	296	297
$1,020 to $1,049.99						304	305	306
$1,050 to $1,079.99						313	314	315
$1,080 to $1,109.99						322	323	324
$1,110 to $1,139.99						324	332	333
$1,140 to $1,169.99						324	341	342
$1,170 to $1,199.99						324	350	351
$1,200 to $1,229.99						324	356	360
$1,230 to $1,259.99							356	369
$1,260 to $1,289.99							356	378
$1,290 to $1,319.99							356	387
$1,320 to $1,349.99							356	396
$1,350 to $1,379.99								405
$1,380 to $1,409.99								410
$1,410 to $1,439.99								410
$1,440 to $1,469.99								410
$1,470 to $1,499.99								410
$1,500 to $1,529.99								410

FOR ISSUANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF MORE THAN EIGHT PERSONS USE THE FOLLOWING FORMULA

A. VALUE OF THE TOTAL ALLOTMENT

For each person in excess of eight, add $58 to the monthly coupon allotment for an eight-person household.

B. PURCHASE REQUIREMENT

1. Use the purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household for households with incomes of $1,379.99 or less per month.

2. For households with monthly incomes of $1,380 or more, use the following formula:

For each $30 worth of monthly income (or portion thereof) over $1,379.99, add $9 to the monthly purchase requirement shown for the eight-person household with an income of $1,379.99.

3. To obtain maximum monthly purchase requirements for households of more than eight persons, add $54 for each person over eight to the maximum purchase requirement shown for an eight-person household.

The total monthly coupon allotments for some households are not divisible by four. This results in total coupon allotments of uneven dollar amounts for those households which choose to purchase one-fourth or three-fourths of their coupon allotment. For such households, the State agency shall round the face value of one-fourth or three-fourths of the total coupon allotment up to the next higher whole dollar amount and shall not change the purchase requirement for such allotment.

NOTE.—The Food and Nutrition Service has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring preparation of an Economic Impact Statement under Executive Order 11821 and OMB Circular A-107.

In view of the need for placing this notice into effect on July 1, 1978, and the lead-time needed by the State agency for implementation, it is hereby determined that it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest to give notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to this notice.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, Programs, No. 10.551, Food Stamps.)

Dated: May 12, 1978.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 78-13467 Filed 5-15-78; 8:45 am]

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